# MAWSON RESOURCES LIMITED

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 29, 2016

# **Background**

This discussion and analysis of financial position and results of operations is prepared as at April 8, 2016, and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements and the accompanying notes for the nine months ended February 29, 2016 of Mawson Resources Limited ("Mawson" or the "Company"). The following disclosure and associated financial statements are presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). Except as otherwise disclosed, all dollar figures included therein and in the following management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") are quoted in Canadian dollars.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

This MD&A contains certain statements that may constitute "forward-looking statements". Forward-looking statements include but are not limited to, statements regarding future anticipated exploration programs and the timing thereof, and business and financing plans. Although the Company believes that such statements are reasonable, it can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to be correct. Forward-looking statements are typically identified by words such as: believe, expect, anticipate, intend, estimate, postulate and similar expressions, or which by their nature refer to future events. The Company cautions investors that any forward-looking statements by the Company are not guarantees of future performance, and that actual results may differ materially from those in forward looking statements as a result of various factors, including, but not limited to, capital and other costs varying significantly from estimates, changes in world metal markets, changes in equity markets, planned drill programs and results varying from expectations, delays in obtaining results, equipment failure, unexpected geological conditions, local community relations, dealings with non-governmental organizations, delays in operations due to permit grants, environmental and safety risks, the Company's ability to identify one or more economic deposits on its properties, to produce minerals from its properties successfully or profitably, to continue its projected growth, to raise the necessary capital or to be fully able to implement its business strategies, and other risks and uncertainties disclosed under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent Annual Information Form.

Historical results of operations and trends that may be inferred from this MD&A may not necessarily indicate future results from operations. In particular, the current state of the global securities markets may cause significant reductions in the price of the Company's securities and render it difficult or impossible for the Company to raise the funds necessary to continue operations.

All of the Company's public disclosure filings, including its most recent management information circular, Annual Information Form, material change reports, press releases and other information, may be accessed via <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a> or the Company's website at <a href="www.mawsonresources.com">www.mawsonresources.com</a> and readers are urged to review these materials, including the technical reports filed with respect to the Company's mineral properties.

# **Company Overview and Highlights**

The Company's common shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbol "MAW", on the Frankfurt Open Market under the trading symbol "MXR" and on the OTC Pink under the symbol "MWSNF.PK".

Mawson is an exploration and development company with precious metal interests in the Nordic countries. Mawson's exploration focus is on the Rompas-Rajapalot gold project in Finland. Mawson is managed by resource industry professionals with significant exploration and capital market expertise.

Mawson is focussed on two target areas at Rompas-Rajapalot:

1. A primary target of disseminated gold mineralization at Rajapalot, where discovery of high grade and thick core sample results include 19.5m @ 7.4 g/t gold from 1.3 metres from PRAJ0006 and 5.4m @ 37.6 g/t gold from 2.5 metres from PRAJ0009 (including 1.0m @ 189.0 g/t gold from 6.9 metres) and 12.6m @ 3.6 g/t gold from 6.7 metres in PRAJ0005. This disseminated mineralization is coincident with geophysical

anomalies that extend for more than 4 kilometres. Follow up drilling produced results including 19.6m @ 7.5 g/t gold from 18.1 metres in drill hole PRAJ0107 including 5.0m @ 24.1 g/t gold from 26.7 metres with visible gold present. The first 4000 metre deep drill program to test this target commenced in December 2015 and will continue until winter conditions end in April 2016, with final data collation and analyses anticipated during May 2016.

2. The Company's secondary target is the Rompas vein-style target area. The first drill program at South Rompas included the highlight of 6 metres at 617 g/t gold from 7 metres in drill hole ROM0011 which includes 1 metre at 3,540 g/t gold from 11 metres depth. The second drill program, conducted over the winter (December 2012 - January 2013) confirmed the presence and variable continuity within metabasalts of high grade, nuggety gold at both North and South Rompas and included results from North Rompas of 0.4 m at 395 g/t gold and 0.41% uranium in drill hole ROM0052 and at South Rompas the top 24% all assays from trenches and drilling now grade 100 g/t or more.

At this very early stage of exploration, Mawson now has indications of a mineral system that has deposited high-grade gold within an area approaching 10 km by 10 km. This is significant on a global scale. An updated NI 43-101 technical report (the "Technical Report") dated August 27, 2014 on the Rompas-Rajapalot property is filed under Mawson's profile on www.sedar.com.

Readers are encouraged to review the complete text of the Technical Report which was prepared and reviewed by Michael Hudson, as the Qualified Person for Mawson's projects. Mr. Hudson is a director, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer for Mawson, and a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

# **Exploration Projects**

#### **Finland**

During the period many of the Finland claims expired under the old Finnish mining act conditions and have been re-applied, and in some cases granted, under the new Finnish Mining Act, which came into force July 1, 2012. As at February 29, 2016, the Company holds a total of 3 granted exploration permits, 12 exploration permit applications and 3 exploration reservations.

Status of Mawson's Claims in Finland

	Number	Area (ha)
<b>Exploration Permits*</b>	3	2,713
<b>Exploration Permit Applications</b>	12	17,755
Reservations	3	29,734

<sup>\*</sup> Two under administrative appeal - working under past conditions under enforcement order

# Rompas-Rajapalot Gold Project

The Rompas-Rajapalot project is a new discovery in Northern Finland where high-grade gold has been found within an area approaching 10 km by 10 km.

# Rajapalot Disseminated Gold Project

Rajapalot is located 8 kilometres to the east of the Rompas vein trend. The style of mineralization at Rajapalot is predominately sulphidic and of a disseminated or replacement style, which differs from the nuggety vein style observed at Rompas. Rajapalot is the primary target area for the Company.

Surface sample highlights from Rajapalot include prospecting grab samples taken from outcrop that returned 2,817 g/t gold, 2,196 g/t gold, 1,245 g/t gold, 933 g/t gold, 151 g/t gold and 135.5 g/t gold. A total of 52 grab samples from the Rajapalot prospect to date average 152.8 g/t gold and range from 0.001 g/t to 2,817 g/t gold. All samples are prospecting grab samples. These are selective by nature and are unlikely to represent average grades on the property.

Discovery grab samples from the Rajapalot project returned gold mineralization from three distinct areas, namely the Palokas, Joki and Rumajärvi prospects. The areas were targeted with regional geophysics and surface soil geochemistry. Rumajärvi lies 1.5 kilometres south of Palokas, while Joki is located 1 kilometre southeast of Palokas. Each prospect area is characterized by minor outcrop on a topographic high, within a predominantly swampy terrain

and therefore very little in situ bedrock has been located. Little outcrop has been found between the prospect areas. As the same mineralized rock types occur in outcrop, the glacial boulders sampled and reported here are considered to be proximal to their source.

In October 2013, Mawson announced the first core test of Rajapalot from the Palokas prospect. Drilling intersected 9 metres at 10.2 g/t gold from surface, including 3 metres at 27.5 g/t gold in hole PRAJ0003. Palokas is part of the Rajapalot area, located 7 kilometres east of our drilling in the vein style mineralization at Rompas. Further high grade, thick and near-surface core sample results in November 2013 and January 2014 included:

- 19.5m @ 7.4 g/t gold from 1.3 metres from PRAJ0006;
- 5.4m @ 37.6 g/t gold from 2.5 metres from PRAJ0009 (including 1.0m @ 189.0 g/t gold from 6.9 metres);
- 12.6m @ 3.6 g/t gold from 6.7 metres in PRAJ0005;
- 19.0m @ 2.3 g/t gold from 8.0 metres from PRAJ0022; and
- 8.7m @ 4.6 g/t gold from 16.9 metres from PRAJ0025.

Multi-element analyses from all core sample holes from the Palokas Prospect at Rajapalot (holes PRAJ0003 to PRAJ0025) shows consistently low uranium (weighted average through quoted intersections is 36ppm uranium and 5.2g/t gold) and high cobalt grades associated with gold mineralization. Cobalt also forms a broader halos around lower (>0.1 g/t) grade gold mineralized zones. The low uranium grades drilled at Palokas also support the concept of both gold-rich and uranium-rich styles occurring within the Rompas-Rajapalot mineral field.

In September 2014, the Company was permitted to drill across the entire Palokas trend at Rajapalot in Finland with a hand portable core sampler capable of drilling depths up to 35-40 metres below surface. The program consisted of 33 holes for 1160.5 metres with an average hole depth of only 35.1 metres. Four additional holes did not drill through to basement. The results extended drilled gold mineralization over 1.2 kilometres from Palokas. Across strike width of mineralization increased up to 120 metres, suggesting possible multiple horizons across strike (previous drilled thickness was 20 metres true width at Palokas). All discoveries are blind, and covered by 2-5 metre thick glacial till deposits, and are open along strike and at depth.

Highlighted intersections reported between December 2014 and March 2015 included:

- 2.0m @ 9.1 g/t gold from 25.4 metres from PRAJ0070
- 3.0m @ 5.1 g/t gold from 8.7 metres from PRAJ0073
- 1.0m @ 14.7 g/t gold from 16.3 metres from PRAJ0072
- 3.9m @ 3.2 g/t gold from 23.0 metres in hole PRAJ0076
- 3.4m @ 2.0 g/t gold from 14.0 metres in hole PRAJ0080
- 3.0m @ 1.4 g/t gold from 35.9 metres in hole PRAJ0080
- 0.3m @ 49.6 g/t Au from 17.7 metres in hole PRAJ0097

The bulk weighted average of geochemical data show consistently low grade uranium within all intervals greater than 0.5 g/t gold with averages of 2.9 g/t gold and 26 ppm uranium for drill holes PRAJ0070-PRAJ0096. The true thickness of the mineralized interval is interpreted to be approximately 80% of the sampled thickness. Drilling was performed with a Company-owned and operated, hand portable, low impact rig, below 2-5 metres of glacial till overburden in the vicinity of gold bearing glacial boulders and subcrop.

In March 2015 the results from a pseudo-3D pole-dipole induced polarization ("IP") and resistivity survey at Palokas defined a 600 metre long conductive anomaly extending down plunge from drilled near-surface gold mineralization (ie 19.5 metres @ 7.4 g/t gold from 1.3 metres depth. The thickness of the conductive body increases with depth and is open below the 250 metre investigative depth of the survey. The IP area surveyed commenced more than 250 metres north of Palokas to 500 metres south of the Palokas prospect. Gold at Palokas is associated with pyrrhotite which forms the conductive and chargeable anomaly associated with drilled gold mineralization and has been confirmed by petrophysics. The thickness of the conductive body increases with depth and is open below the 250 metre investigative depth of the survey. The body plunges south and has little or no surface expression where recent near-surface drilling has provided near-miss and thinner mineralized gold hits.

In March 2015 the Company took delivery of a new "Winkie" low impact portable diamond core sampler. This allowed testing to 120 metres down hole. Two drill holes for 180.2 metres were completed in April 2015 before winter access conditions ended, to test the down-dip extensions of the Palokas prospect tested beneath near surface.

Highlight intersections included:

- 19.6m @ 7.5 g/t gold from 18.1 metres in drill hole PRAJ0107 including 5.0m @ 24.1 g/t gold from 26.7 metres with visible gold present; and
- 5.1m @ 3.8 g/t gold from 18.3 metres in drill hole PRAJ0108.

Drilling at Palokas recommenced in August 2015 after the snow melted and the bird nesting exclusion period was over. Drill results coincide with a series of near surface geophysical anomalies and form part of a 3 kilometre target horizon within a broader district of gold mineralization discovered within a 100 km2 area between the Rompas and Rajapalot project areas. Highlight intersections from this program included:

- 19.0 metres @ 5.3 g/t gold from 38.7 metres in drill hole PRAJ0109
- 9.2 metres @ 3.2 g/t gold from 82.0 metres in drill hole PRAJ0110
- 5.8 metres @ 6.2 g/t gold interested from 39.1 metres in drill hole PRAJ0111, including 1 metre @ 19.8 g/t gold from 42.1 metres
- 20.6 metres @ 2.7 g/t gold from 56.8 metres in drill hole PRAJ0113
- 7.0 metres @ 7.2 g/t gold from 61.1 metres in drill hole PRAJ0114

Two Energold Group ("Energold") EGD Series III rigs were mobilized to drill from December 2015 to April 2016 at Rajapalot. The primary target for this program is the Palokas prospect.

In February 2016 drill results from the first four holes from the Palokas prospect and one hole from Hirvimaa became available. All holes at Palokas intersected the mineralized sequence with only lower tenor gold mineralization discovered down dip and along strike from previous drilling, where marginal-style talc alteration predominates. Results from Palokas include 4 metres @ 1.2 g/t gold from 152.0 metres in PAL0009, drilled 65 metres down dip from PRAJ0110 (9.2 metres @ 3.2 g/t gold from 82 meters) and 3.1 metres at 1.4g/t gold from 150.6 metres in PAL0012, drilled 90 metres down dip from PRAJ0117 (2.0 metres @ 2.8 g/t gold from 66.4 meters, 3.0 metres @ 1.6g/t gold from 65.6 metres and 3.0 metres @ 1.9g/t gold from 109.9 metres). Results from the first deep drill hole drilled at Hirvimaa, PAL0008, located 680 metres north of Palokas, include 3.0m @ 1.4g/t gold from 31 metres. Mineralization remains open down plunge to the north and appears to be truncated down-dip and to the south by these new results.

In March 2016, 8.4 metres @ 4.2 g/t gold from 206.0 metres in PAL0016, including 3.4 metres @ 9.5 g/t gold from 211 metres was reported. The true width is interpreted to be approximately 90% of the sampled thickness. PAL0016 was drilled 350 metres along strike from the main Palokas mineralization and is the deepest and best result drilled outside of Palokas to date. Mineralization is hosted in a sericite-quartz-pyrrhotite rock which represents a different style and stratigraphic position to Palokas.

Mawson, in conjunction with all environmental authorities, are ensuring that all parts of these exploration programs are undertaken with minimal environmental impact. Baseline mapping of habitats and vegetation were completed during the summer and autumn. Mapping and identifying the nature values of the area ensures that threatened and endangered species are not negatively affected by exploration activities.

Geochemical sampling and shallow drilling at Rajapalot is also coincident with a versatile time domain electromagnetic ("VTEM") geophysical conductor that extends for more than 500 metres through an area with <1% outcrop, and forms part of a 3.5 kilometre target horizon between basaltic and quartzitic rocks. In addition, gradient array IP, pole-dipole IP and ground magnetic surveys have been completed at Rajapalot. The geophysical surveys tested 5 kilometres of target horizon along strike from the drill area at Palokas. Interpretation of the surveys identified multiple near-surface and high priority targets that extend to depth immediately along strike, and extending up to 4 kilometres from the drilled high grade and thick drill results discovered from surface pole-dipole induced polarization geophysical anomalies extend beyond the 150 metre nominal depth limit of the survey.

Fine disseminated gold mineralization at Palokas occurs within calcsilicate-biotite-tourmaline-pyrrhotite rocks in a contact zone between mafic rocks and relatively oxidized quartzites. The true thicknesses of the mineralized intervals are interpreted to be approximately 80% of the sampled thickness.

During October 2014 the Company announced results from preliminary metallurgical testing on drill core from the Palokas prospect at the Rompas-Rajapalot gold project in Arctic Finland by SGS Mineral Services UK in Cornwall. Excellent gold extraction results of between 95% and 99% (average 97%) were obtained by a combination of gravity

separation and conventional cyanidation. Gravity extraction for the four composites responded well with 26-48% gold extraction. Leaching was performed on the pulverised and blended tailings from the three size fractions after gravity extraction. Samples tested are not classified as refractory. Metallurgical test work indicates gold recovery and processing are potentially amenable to conventional industry standards with a viable flowsheet which could include crushing and grinding, gravity recovery, and cyanide leaching with gold recovery via a carbon-in-pulp circuit for production of onsite gold doré.

# Rompas Vein Gold Project

The initial discovery area, Rompas, is a hydrothermal vein style system defined over a 6.0 kilometres strike and 200-250 metres width. Exploration on the project started in May 2010. During that year, 80 channel samples averaged 0.59 metres at 203.66 g/t gold and 0.86% uranium and during 2011 the weighted average of all 74 channel intervals was 1.40 m at 51.9 g/t gold and 0.13 % uranium. Unrepresentative grab sample results include values up to 33,200 ppm gold and 56.6% uranium oxide at Rompas.

From mid-2011 Mawson has drilled 8,164.8 metres in 90 holes at Rompas, comprising 2,462.8 metres in 29 drill holes at North Rompas; 2,436.2 metres in 29 drill holes in the northern block at South Rompas; 2,504.3 metres in 24 holes within the southern block at South Rompas; and 761.5 metres in 8 drill holes at Northern Rajapalot.

In August 2012, results from the first drill program at Rompas returned 6 metres @ 617 g/t gold in drill hole ROM0011 including 1 metre @ 3,540 g/t gold and 1 metre @ 114.5 g/t gold in drill hole ROM0015. These results confirmed the significance of the hundreds of high-grade surface occurrences that were channel sampled during 2010 and 2011.

A second drill program commenced in December 2012. At North Rompas the best results include 0.4 metres @ 395 g/t gold and 0.41% uranium from 41.0 metres in drill hole ROM0052, the most southerly drill hole of the program; and 1.1 metres @ 9.8 g/t gold and 0.16% uranium from 78.5 metres in drill hole ROM0053.

Drilling at the Kaita prospect at the most southern end of the Rompas vein system did not intersect mineralization of economic interest. A 13 diamond drill hole program for 784.2 metres campaign was conducted during September-October of 2013. The best diamond drill result was 1m @ 4.9 g/t gold from 49 metres in KD0009. Better surface diamond cut trench results from Kaita included 1.65 metres @ 29.1 g/t gold in TR107465; 1.2 m @ 27 g/t gold in TR118401, 0.4 m @ 132 g/t gold in TR118407 and 1.5 m @ 42.2 g/t gold in TR118425.

With only 450 metres of the plus 6 kilometre vein system sporadically tested to date down to less than 80 metres vertical depth, the most encouragement has come from the northern block of South Rompas vein system, with both prospect scale shallow drilling and trenching defining a coherent mineralized sequence. South Rompas is characterized by gold mineralization constrained to one specific host rock type (metabasalt) within a broader uranium halo. Within this halo the:

- top 24% of all trench and drill assays above the lower cut of 0.5 g/t gold or 100 ppm uranium, have a grade of 100 g/t or more and the top 24% of all intersections have a grade of 0.42% uranium or higher;
- top 25% of drill intersections only have a grade of 7.7 g/t or higher;
- highest grade drill hole intersection is 3,540 g/t gold over 1 metre. The highest grade uranium intersection is 3.6% uranium over 0.6 m in a trench. The highest grade drill intersection grade of 0.7% uranium over 1.0 metres:
- mineralization in the vein system, to date, is characterized by narrow intersection widths of 1-2 metres with an average of 0.9 metre thickness;
- drilling, to date, has been shallow with 46% of intersections at 20 metres down hole depth or less; and
- 11 out of 13 holes drilled in 2013 winter drill program at South Rompas had at least one intersection that exceeded lower cut 0.5 g/t gold or 100 ppm uranium.

The host sequence to the Company's second target area, the Rompas vein-style mineralisation, comprises a package of amphibolite facies metamorphosed basalts, clastic sediments, carbonate rocks and reduced shales of the Paleoproterozoic Peräpohja Schist Belt in southern Lapland. Mineralized intersections to date are largely within metabasaltic rocks. Detailed field mapping and logging of drill core indicate the gold and uraninite at Rompas is hosted by carbonate-quartz-calcsilicate veins and their related alteration selvages. The calcsilicate veins comprise carbonate, quartz, amphibole and pyroxene with highly variable amounts and distribution of uraninite and gold. Alteration of the host rock marginal to the veins comprises biotite, amphibole and some K-feldspar. The gold and

uraninite are typically found intimately associated at North and South Rompas, although rare elevated uranium intersections contain little or no gold. The carbonate veins within the host clastic sequence appear identical to those within the metabasalts, indicating perhaps a structural or wall rock control on the precipitation of the gold and uraninite. Further work to identify the controls on mineralization is being conducted in association with the Geological Survey of Finland ("GTK").

After consultation with the mining and environmental authorities a decision was also made to leave handling of the Kairamaat 1 area, which includes the Rompas vein-style prospects, to a later date to allow for additional background data to be collected and further discussions with stakeholders. Therefore at this stage, the Company is focussing its efforts on the Rajapalot project area which it discovered in September 2012.

# Rompas-Rajapalot Regional Exploration Project

Over a larger area, the extensive data collected from Rompas during the last four field seasons has provided an excellent understanding of the exploration potential. Mawson has collected a total of 2,808 surficial soil and till samples over an area exceeding 55 km by 30 km. Sample spacing has ranged from 1 km to 250 metres. Known gold mineralization correlates well with surficial soil anomalies and many untested surface targets remain over a larger area.

Surface prospecting, using radiometric methods as a pathfinder for gold, have defined high-grade gold mineralization over a 100 km² area, where less than 5% of rock outcrops. Mawson's geochemical rock chip, grab and channel sample database over this large area now contains 1,171 samples which average 212 g/t gold and 0.8% uranium. Of the 1,171 samples, 84 samples assay more than 100 g/t gold. Gold values range from 33,320 g/t gold to <0.001 g/t gold and uranium values from 49.5% to <4 ppm. Channel samples are considered representative of the in situ mineralization sampled, while grab samples are selective by nature and are unlikely to represent average grades on the property.

Importantly, about 90% of the Rompas-Rajapalot project area is below soil and till cover which, at up to five metres thick, is too thick for the discovery of near-surface radiometric occurrences and exploration is at its very earliest of stages.

# **Environment and Permitting**

The Rompas-Rajapalot project is still in the exploration phase and significant work is required before progression to an advanced exploration project. Finland has rigorous regulatory processes with strict environmental standards and we are committed at this early project stage to work with the regional and national authorities and broader stakeholder groups to develop the project in a responsible way. Mawson has completed three years of flora and water base line studies and environmental impact assessments at Rompas-Rajapalot. The Company looks forward to continuing to work closely with both the mining and environmental authorities and other stakeholders over the coming years to ensure our work is conducted according to sustainable and global best practice methods.

In November 2014, Mawson announced the appointment of environmental specialist, Ms. Noora Raasakka, to the position of Environmental Leader, Finland. Ms. Raasakka is a Forestry Engineer with a Masters Degree in Landscape Management. She has developed strong experience within the Finnish environmental administration, applying environmental legislation towards nature protection. Her most recent role has been with The Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Lapland (ELY-Centre) in the Nature Protection Unit as a project manager for a program based on developing biodiversity and ecological connections between Natura 2000 sites.

As Environmental Leader, Ms. Raasakka sets Environmental Policy with senior management, and is responsible for environmental monitoring and management plans. She is responsible for identifying and managing key environmental risks associated with Mawson's projects and for ensuring environmental factors are effectively addressed and managed. Working closely with local communities and government, Ms. Raasakka manages consultants and ensures that environmental criteria are integrated into the design of exploration projects. The role is a key member of the exploration team and she is responsible for ensuring all environmental requirements are delivered on time and within scope.

Mawson carries out its exploration activities in large areas, including areas with a conservation status. Natural regeneration capacity in the northern regions is slower than in the southern regions due to the cold climate and short growing season. All the activities must therefore be carefully and thoughtfully planned to maintain and achieve sustainability.

The Company is committed to carry out all the research measures implemented with special care, according to the national legislation, guidelines and recommendations provided by the environmental administration authorities. In addition, international legislation and in particular the Habitats and Birds Directives guide the Company's operations. As a part of Company's development it also invests in new exploration methods and techniques with less significant impacts. The Company's aim is to carry out all their activities with ecologically, socially and economically sustainable manners. The Company also requires its subcontractors to the corresponding accountability in all their activities.

The main areas of Company's operations, Rompas and Rajapalot, are located on the border of Rovaniemi and Ylitornio municipalities in northern Finland. The Company has completed a variety of nature studies, and also implemented a Natura 2000 impact assessment related to the future and ongoing exploration activities. Currently there exists little scientific research on the impacts of different kinds of exploration methods on nature and the environment in these areas and therefore the Company's exploration activities and their impacts on the natural environment, species and water is monitored continuously. Monitoring activities will provide long-term research information on how sampling and exploration work should be carried out in a sustainable way without causing damage to environmental values.

For the recent core sampling program at Rajapalot, Mawson has completed biological mapping of all areas where drilling will take place, and worked together with all authorities to minimize its impacts, including the capture of all drill cuttings, reduction in total machine weight and the placement of walkways to reduce foot traffic.

Certain areas of the Rompas-Rajapalot areas (namely claim areas Kairamaat 1-3) are defined as European Union Natura 2000 designated areas. Natura 2000 sites cover about 14.6% of Finland and approximately 30% of Northern Finland. Natura 2000 is the centrepiece of EU nature and biodiversity policy. It is an EU-wide ecological network of nearly 26,000 sites in the 27 EU countries, established under the 1992 Habitats Directive and covering almost 18% of the EU's land area. The aim of the network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. Natura 2000 is not a system of strict nature reserves where all human activities are excluded. Whereas the network will certainly include nature reserves, most of the land is likely to continue to be privately-owned and the emphasis will be on ensuring that future management is sustainable, both ecologically and economically.

A decision was made in early July 2014 by the Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency ("TUKES") to grant modified and renewed exploration claims titled Kairamaat 2 and 3 that cover a surface area of 1,462 hectares at Mawson's Rajapalot gold project in northern Finland, that entitles Mawson to deep drill during winter conditions within Natura 2000 biodiversity areas. On May 21, 2015, the Northern Finland Administrative Court (the "Court") comprehensively rejected an initial appeal by the NGO group against the TUKES exploration permit decision. On June 18, 2015, the NGO appealed the Regional Administrative Court's decision to the Supreme Administrative Court. The Supreme Court process could take up to 12 months depending on how the court elects to deal with the appeal. The appeal will not stop Mawson advancing its exploration program. The Company will continue to work under an enforcement order of its existing permit conditions, which includes the right to drill with man-portable rigs to test the Palokas gold discovery.

While too late for this current legal process, Mawson welcomes the recently elected Finnish Government's New Governmental Coalition Program, which limits access to the Supreme Administrative Court in environmental and construction matters. In addition, neighboring village associations to the project and the local Ylitornio municipality have demonstrated strong support for Mawson's exploration work.

On August 24 2015, the Company announced that it had requested a police investigation into certain accusations made by an NGO about the Company in their re-appeal to the Supreme Administrative Court. On December 18 2015, Mawson was informed by the Rovaniemi police that it will not proceed with the case. The Rovaniemi police have subsequently informed the Company that they have reassessed the case and have commenced interviewing members of the NGO.

The Company has also been informed of the ELY-Centre ("ELY") decision in a rehabilitation administrative process, for the shallow trenches hand dug by Mawson staff during 2010/2011. The Company has already filled in the trenches as agreed with ELY during July 2015, a two-day process that the Company initiated in 2011, but was stopped from completing at the time, due to an ongoing investigation that eventually took four years. ELY's recent decision found the Company did not cause any significant boreal forest habitat damage. Initial accusations made against the

Company were up to 117 hectares of boreal forest habitat damage. This expert decision is also in contrast to the separate criminal court case in 2014, where the Company was found to have diminished the representativeness and diversity of the boreal forest habitat. In addition, it was determined Mawson did not destroy any lady's slipper plants (Cypripedium calceolus (tikankontti) - a type of orchid). Initial accusations of up to 2,241 lady's slipper plants were made widely and publically against the Company. The decision found that a small number of fairy slipper plants (Calypso bulbosa (neidonkenkä) - another type of orchid) may have been damaged by the hand digging, but most digging avoided the fairy slipper plant areas. This compared to initial accusations of damage to up to 160 fairy slipper plants that were made widely and publically.

Mawson is pleased that the ELY decision reflected the closest estimations to fact, and refuted nearly all prior accusations made against the Company, since the hand digging took place in 2010/2011. The Company however has chosen to appeal the ELY decision to the Administrative Court, as ELY concluded that the damage caused to the fairy slipper plants could be considered significant, despite there being no supportive reasoning for this finding and ELY's factual and expert findings suggesting otherwise. Given the past accusations and contrasting findings made against the Company, Mawson has taken this final step to file an appeal to ensure that the final administrative decision best reflects the facts of the case. The appeal to the administrative court will take up to one year to be heard.

## Sweden

As at February 29, 2016, the Company holds a total of 8 claims in Sweden covering 19,218 hectares, prospective for uranium and gold.

# Future Developments

Upcoming future developments at Rompas-Rajapalot include:

• Two Energold EGD Series III rigs continue to drill at Rajapalot until April 2016.

# **Qualified Person**

The qualified person for Mawson's projects, Mr. Michael Hudson, the Company's President and CEO, a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, has reviewed and verified the contents of this document.

## **Selected Financial Data**

The following selected financial information is derived from the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of the Company.

	Fiscal 2016				Fiscal 2014			
	Feb 29 2016 \$	Nov 30 2015 \$	Aug 31 2015 \$	May 31 2015 \$	Feb 28 2015 \$	Nov 30 2014 \$	Aug 31 2014 \$	May 31 2014 \$
Operations:								
Revenues	Nil							
Expenses	(466,729)	(417,660)	(300,431)	(443,237)	(391,712)	(721,341)	(468,887)	(430,108)
Other items	12,149	5,771	132,872	78,697	(23,022)	(52,613)	7,593	(119,213)
Deferred income tax	Nil							
Net loss	(454,580)	(411,889)	(167,559)	(364,540)	(414,734)	(773,954)	(461,294)	(549,321)
Other comprehensive								
income (loss), net	15,327	(9,375)	12,612	(21,968)	69	(19,988)	(17,156)	(71,309)
Comprehensive loss	(439,253)	(421,264)	(154,947)	(386,508)	(414,665)	(793,942)	(478,450)	(620,630)
Basic and diluted								
loss per share	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Dividends per share	Nil							
Balance Sheet:								
Working capital	4,812,969	4,420,107	3,995,480	4,149,868	4,747,863	5,649,942	4,103,178	5,049,246
Total assets	19,103,495	17,587,205	16,571,469	16,748,322	17,239,539	17,881,022	15,568,317	15,910,150
Total long-term liabilities	Nil							

# **Results of Operations**

Three Months Ended February 29, 2016 Compared to Three Months Ended November 30, 2015

During the three months ended February 29, 2016 ("Q3") the Company reported a net loss of \$454,580 compared to a net loss of \$411,889 for the three months ended November 30, 2015 ("Q2"), an increase in loss of \$42,691. The primary factors for the increase in loss are attributed to:

- (i) \$49,984 increase in legal fees from \$15,431 in Q2 to \$65,415 in Q3 due to the ongoing legal issues with respect to the appeal by the NGO Group;
- (ii) \$26,447 increase in general exploration from \$11,365 in Q2 to \$37,812 in Q3 relating to ongoing property due diligence in Sweden and Finland; and
- (iii) \$18,301 increase in travel expenses from \$61,980 in Q2 to \$80,281 in Q3 mainly to oversee the Company's exploration and evaluation assets in Finland.

The increases in these expenses were partially offset by a \$41,108 decrease in audit expenses, of which \$41,220 was incurred in Q2 compared to \$112 in Q3, due to the timing of the billings of the Company's year-end financial statements.

Nine Months Ended February 29, 2016 Compared to Nine Months Ended February 28, 2015

During the nine month period ended February 29, 2016 (the "2016 period") the Company reported a net loss of \$1,034,028 (\$0.01 per share), a decrease of \$615,954 from the net loss of \$1,649,982 (\$0.02 per share) reported for the nine months ended February 28, 2015 (the "2015 period"). The decrease in loss is primarily attributed to:

- (i) the recognition of a gain in the 2016 period of \$99,235 on the sale of the condominium; and
- (ii) the overall decrease in general and administrative expenses of \$397,120, from \$1,581,940 in the 2015 period to \$1,184,820 in the 2016 period due to decreased corporate and exploration activities.

Total expenses decreased by \$397,120, from \$1,581,940 during the 2015 period to \$1,184,820 during the 2016 period. Specific expenses of variance are noted below:

- (i) during the 2015 period the Company recognized \$53,000 in share-based compensation compared to \$nil in the 2016 period;
- (ii) legal fees decreased by \$86,999, from \$168,950 in the 2015 period to \$81,951 in the 2016 period. During the 2015 period legal fees were higher due to significant costs incurred for legal representation, court hearings and ongoing appeals with respect to allegations over the Company's exploration work completed during the 2010/2011 field program. See also "Exploration Projects, Finland Environment and Permitting";
- (iii) corporate development expenses were higher during the 2016 period compared to the 2015 period from \$45,148 in the 2016 period compared to \$25,377 in the 2015 period. During the 2016 period the Company attended several international investment conferences;
- (iv) during the 2015 period the Company paid \$23,375 to Albis Capital Corp. to provide market awareness and investor relations activities. Effective May 31, 2015 the arrangement with Albis Capital Corp. was mutually terminated and no further investor relations campaigns were conducted;
- (v) professional fees incurred decreased by \$101,606, from \$362,374 during the 2015 period to \$260,768 during the 2016 period, primarily due to the restructuring in the Company's engagement of its general manager in Finland resulting in a reduction in remuneration of \$27,193. In addition, during the 2015 period the Company paid \$88,333 to a public relations firm in Finland to represent the Company on the Natura 2000 situation;
- (vi) incurred travel expenses of \$187,135 (2015-\$268,574). Travel expenses were lower during the 2016 period compared to the 2015 period due to reduced travel by management and consultants; and
- (vii) office expenses decreased by \$34,860 from \$113,068 in the 2015 period to \$78,208 in the 2016 period. During the 2015 period the Company purchased specialized software and computer support in Finland.

As the Company is in the exploration stage of investigating and evaluating its unproven mineral interests, it has no source of operating revenue. Interest income is generated from cash on deposit and short-term money market instruments issued by major financial institutions. During the 2016 period the Company reported interest income of \$30,657 compared to \$51,786 during the 2015 period, a decrease of \$21,129. The decrease is due to lower levels of cash held during the 2016 period and lower yields obtained.

The Company had previously recorded income from the rental of its condominium in Peru. On August 31, 2014 the Company terminated the rental arrangement on its condominium in Peru. During the 2015 period the Company received \$7,734 rental income. In June 2015 the Company sold its condominium for net proceeds of \$292,813 and recorded a gain of \$99,235.

# **Financings**

On December 2, 2015, the Company completed a non-brokered private placement of 15,720,392 units of the Company at \$0.20 per unit for gross proceeds of \$3,144,078. The net proceeds from the financing have been used to drill at the Company's Rompas-Rajapalot Project in Finland with the aim to complete a mineral resource estimate on the property in 2016, and for general working capital purposes.

During the 2015 period the Company completed a non-brokered private placement of 9,124,243 units of the Company at \$0.33 per unit for gross proceeds of \$3,011,000. The net proceeds from the financing were used to advance exploration work on the Company's Rompas-Rajapalot Project in Finland and for general working capital purposes.

#### **Investments**

The Company's holdings in the common shares of publicly held companies have been designated as available-for-sale for accounting purposes and are measured at fair value. During the 2016 period the Company recorded a comprehensive gain of \$18,564 (2015 - loss of \$37,075) for the change in the fair values of the investments. As at February 29, 2016 the quoted market value of the investments was \$84,315 compared to \$87,719 at February 28, 2015.

## **Exploration and Evaluation Assets**

	A	As at February 29, 2016  Deferred			As at May 31 2015  Deferred			
	Acquisition Costs \$	Exploration Costs \$	Total \$	Acquisition Costs \$	Exploration Costs \$	Total \$		
Finland - Gold Projects Sweden - Other Projects	2,171,203 63,636	11,360,534 1,344	13,531,737 64,980	2,086,965 58,780	9,828,636 1,344	11,915,601 60,124		
	2,234,839	11,361,878	13,596,717	2,145,745	9,829,980	11,975,725		

During the 2016 period the Company incurred a total of \$1,620,992 (2015 - \$1,715,797) on the acquisition, exploration and evaluation of its unproven resource assets, of which \$1,616,136 (2015 - \$1,690,053) was incurred on its Finnish projects and \$4,856 (2015 - \$26,352) on its Swedish properties. In addition during the 2015 period the Company recovered \$608 on mining permits relinquished on its Swedish projects. Details of the exploration activities conducted during the 2016 period are described in "Exploration Projects" in this MD&A.

# **Financial Condition / Capital Resources**

As at February 29, 2016, the Company had working capital of \$4,812,969. The Company has conducted a detailed review of its organization and cost structure and has implemented a number of cost reduction measures to preserve its working capital until the capital markets improve. The Company believes that it has sufficient financial resources to conduct anticipated exploration programs and meet anticipated corporate administration costs for the upcoming twelve month period. However, exploration activities may change due to ongoing results and recommendations, or the Company may acquire additional properties, which may entail significant funding or exploration commitments. The Company may be required to obtain additional financing. The Company has relied solely on equity financing to raise the requisite financial resources. While it has been successful in the past, there can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising future financing should the need arise.

# **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements.

### **Proposed Transactions**

There are no proposed transactions.

## **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. A detailed summary of all the Company's significant accounting policies is included in Note 3 to the May 31, 2015 annual consolidated financial statements.

# **Changes in Accounting Policies**

There are no changes in accounting policies.

## **Related Parties Disclosures**

A number of key management personnel, or their related parties, hold positions in other entities that result in them having control or significant influence over the financial or operating policies of those entities. Certain of these entities transacted with the Company during the reporting period.

# (a) Transactions with Key Management Personnel

During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 and February 28, 2015 the following amounts were incurred with respect to the Company's President and CEO (Mr. Hudson), CFO (Mr. DeMare) and VP of Exploration (Mr. Cook):

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Management fees - Mr. Hudson	135,000	132,000
Professional fees - Mr. DeMare	22,000	22,500
Professional fees - Mr. Cook	98,372	140,847
	255,372	295,347

Professional fees of \$98,372 (2015 - \$140,847) have been capitalized to exploration and evaluation assets based on the nature of the expenditure.

As at February 29, 2016, \$28,688 (2015 - \$71,530) of the above amounts remained unpaid.

The Company has a management agreement with Mr. Hudson, which provides that in the event that Mr. Hudson's services as the Company's President are terminated without cause or upon a change of control of the Company, a termination payment of two years of compensation, at \$15,000 per month, is payable. If the termination had occurred on February 29, 2016 the amount payable under the agreement would be \$360,000.

## (b) Transactions with Other Related Parties

(i) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 and February 28, 2015 the following amounts were incurred with respect to the Company's non-executive directors (Messrs. Henstridge, Leathley, Saxon and Maclean) and Corporate Secretary (Ms. Bermudez):

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Salaries - Ms. Bermudez	60,750	56,750
Professional fees - Mr. Henstridge	21,500	22,500
Professional fees - Mr. Leathley	21,500	22,500
Professional fees - Mr. Saxon	21,500	22,500
Professional fees - Mr. Maclean	21,500	22,500
	146,750	146,750

As at February 29, 2016, \$7,500 (2015 - \$25,000) of the above amounts remained unpaid.

- (ii) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 the Company incurred a total of \$38,850 (2015 \$35,400) with Chase Management Ltd. ("Chase"), a private corporation owned by Mr. DeMare, for accounting and administration services provided by Chase personnel, excluding Mr. DeMare, and \$3,015 (2015 \$3,015) for rent. As at February 29, 2016, \$3,670 (2015 \$4,170) remained unpaid.
- (c) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 the Company recovered \$40,222 (2015 \$53,607) for shared office personnel and costs from Tasman Metals Ltd. ("Tasman"), Tinka Resources Limited and Flinders Resources Limited, public companies with common directors and officers. As at February 29, 2016, \$5,800 (2015 \$6,525) of the amount remained outstanding.
- (d) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 the Company incurred \$1,480 (2015 \$3,664) for shared office administration costs with Tasman, a public company with common directors and officers.
- (e) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016 officers and directors participated in a private placement as follows: Mr. Hudson 350,000 units; Mr. Cook 100,000 units; Mr. Leathley 25,000 units; Mr. Saxon 80,000 units; and Mr. Clark 5,000 units.
- (f) During the nine months ended February 29, 2016, Sentient Global Resources Fund IV, L.P., a related entity, participated in a private placement for 7,500,000 units and in the nine months ended February 28, 2015 participated in a private placement for 3,030,303 units.

## **Risks and Uncertainties**

The Company competes with other mining companies, some of which have greater financial resources and technical facilities, for the acquisition of mineral concessions, claims and other interests, as well as for the recruitment and retention of qualified employees.

The Company believes that it is in compliance in all material regulations applicable to its exploration activities. The Company is dealing with certain Finnish environmental authorities in regards to certain issued raised on the Rompas property. See also "Exploration Projects - Finland - Environment". Existing and possible future environmental legislation, regulations and actions could cause additional expense, capital expenditures, restrictions and delays in the activities of the Company, the extent of which cannot be predicted. Before production can commence on any properties, the Company must obtain regulatory and environmental approvals. There is no assurance that such approvals can be obtained on a timely basis or at all. The cost of compliance with changes in governmental regulations has the potential to reduce the profitability of operations.

The Company's material mineral properties are located in Scandinavia and consequently the Company is subject to certain risks, including currency fluctuations which may result in the impairment or loss of mining title or other mineral rights, and mineral exploration and mining activities may be affected in varying degrees by governmental regulations relating to the mining industry.

Additional risks and uncertainties relating to the Company and its business can be found in the "Risk Factors" section of the Company's most recent Annual Information Form available at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a> or the Company's website at <a href="https://www.mawsonresources.com">www.mawsonresources.com</a>.

## **Outstanding Share Data**

The Company's authorized share capital is unlimited common shares without par value. As at April 8, 2016 there were 90,307,863 issued and outstanding common shares. In addition, there were 4,270,000 share options outstanding, at exercise prices ranging from \$0.20 to \$0.65 per share and 17,113,772 warrants outstanding at exercise prices ranging from \$0.30 to \$0.65 per share.

# **Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that material information is gathered and reported to senior management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to permit timely decisions regarding public disclosure.

Management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in National Instrument 52-109 - Certification of Disclosure in Issuer's Annual and Interim Filings ("52-109"), are effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed in reports that are filed or submitted under Canadian Securities legislation are recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time period specified in those rules. Management relies upon certain informal procedures and communication, and upon "hands-on" knowledge of senior management. Due to the small staff, however, the Company will continue to rely on an active Board and management with open lines of communication to maintain the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures.

# **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the Company's financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Internal control over financial reporting includes maintaining records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the Company's transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; providing reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS; providing reasonable assurance that receipts and expenditures are made in accordance with authorizations of management and the directors of the Company; and providing reasonable assurance that unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of Company's assets that could have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements would be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of the Company's consolidated financial statements would be prevented or detected.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on the framework and criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework*, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013). This evaluation included review of the documentation of controls, evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls, testing of the operating effectiveness of controls and a conclusion on this evaluation. Based on this evaluation, management concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of February 29, 2016.

# **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that there has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal period beginning on December 1, 2015 and ending on February 29, 2016 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.